REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 3-5, and 7-21 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, Applicants AMEND claims 1, 3, 5, and 7 and CANCEL claims 2 and 6.

Claims 1-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chigodo et al. (U.S. 5,473,293) in view of the IEEE article by Fukushima et al. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 1-21.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite:

> "A high frequency switching component for being connected to a transmission circuit, a reception circuit, and an antenna to be used for switching either to a state in which the transmission circuit is connected to the antenna, or a state in which the reception circuit is connected to the antenna, the high frequency switching component comprising:
> a multilayer circuit board, on which there is formed a circuit including:
> a transmission circuit terminal to be connected to the transmission circuit;
> a reception circuit terminal to be connected to the reception circuit;
> an antenna terminal to be connected to the antenna;
> a ground terminal;
> a first diode connected to the transmission circuit terminal and to the antenna terminal;
> a second diode connected to the reception circuit terminal and to the ground terminal;
> a signal line for connecting the transmission circuit terminal, the reception circuit terminal, and the antenna terminal via the first diode; and
> an inductor disposed between the signal line and the ground terminal which is effective to eliminate an electrostatic surge occurring on the signal line, the inductor being provided by a line electrode disposed inside the multilayer circuit board; wherein
> in which the transmission circuit terminal, the reception circuit terminal, the antenna terminal, the ground terminal, the first diode, and the second diode are disposed on a surface of the multilayer circuit board;
> at least a part of the signal line is disposed inside the multilayer circuit board; and
> **the inductor is opposed to a ground electrode provided adjacent to the bottom surface of the multilayer circuit b ard."** (emphasis added)

Claim 5 has been amended to recite:

"A high frequency switching component for being connected to a transmission circuit, a reception circuit, and an antenna to be used for switching to either a state in which the
transmission circuit is connected to the antenna, or a state in which the reception circuit is connected to the antenna, comprising:
a multilayer circuit board, on which there is formed a circuit including:
a transmission circuit terminal to be connected to the transmission circuit;
a reception circuit terminal to be connected to the reception circuit;
an antenna terminal to be connected to be the antenna;
a ground terminal;
a first diode is connected to the transmission circuit terminal and to the antenna terminal;
a second diode is connected to the reception circuit terminal and to the ground terminal;
a signal line for connecting the transmission circuit terminal, the reception circuit terminal, and the antenna terminal via the first diode; and
an LC filter connected to the signal line which is effective to eliminate an electrostatic surge occurring on the signal line, the LC filter being disposed inside the multilayer circuit board; wherein
in which the transmission circuit terminal, the reception circuit terminal, the antenna terminal, the ground terminal, the first diode, and the second diode are disposed on a surface of the multilayer circuit board;
at least a part of the signal line being disposed inside the multilayer circuit board; and
the LC filter is provided between the bottom surface of the multilayer circuit board and a ground electrode disposed inside the multilayer circuit board." (emphasis added)

Applicants' claim 1 recites the feature of "the inductor is opposed to a ground electrode provided adjacent to the bottom surface of the multilayer circuit board." Applicants' claim 5 recites the feature of "the LC filter is provided between the bottom surface of the multilayer circuit board and a ground electrode disposed inside the multilayer circuit board." With the improved features of claims 1 and 5, Applicants have be n able to provide an improved high frequency switching component (see, for example, the second to last paragraph on page 2 of the originally filed Specification).

Applicants have amended claim 1 to recite the feature of "the inductor is opposed to a ground electrode provided adjacent to the bottom surface of the multilayer circuit board" and claim 5 to recite the feature of "the LC filter is provided between the bottom surface of the multilayer circuit board and a ground electrode disposed inside the multilayer circuit board." The Examiner has admitted in the first full paragraph on page 4 of the outstanding Office Action that Chigodo et al. fails to teach or suggest the features of an inductor and LC filter as recited in Applicants' claims 1 and 5, respectively. The Examiner has relied upon Fukushima et al. to allegedly cure these deficiencies in Chigodo et al.

However, Fukushima et al. does not contain a hint or suggestion that the inductor or LC filter could or should be located in the interior of a multilayer circuit board, and certainly fails to teach or suggest the feature of "the inductor is opposed to a ground electrode provided adjacent to the bottom surface of the multilayer circuit board" as recited in Applicants' claim 1 and the feature of "the LC filter is provided between the bottom surface of the multilayer circuit board and a ground electrode disposed inside the multilayer circuit board" as recited in Applicants' claim 5. In contrast, Fukushima et al. merely teaches in section no. 5 on page 12 that the low pass filter, including the inductor, should be made from external components.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1 and 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chigodo et al. in view of the IEEE article by Fukushima et al.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that none of the prior art of record, applied alone or in combination, teaches or suggests the unique combination and arrangement of elements recited in claims 1 and 5 of the present application. Claims 3, 4, 9-14 depend upon claim 1 and are therefore allowable for at least the reasons that claim 1 is allowable. Claims 7, 8, and 15-21 depend upon claim 5 and are therefore allowable for at least the reasons that claim 5 is allowable.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit

that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are solicited.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition the Commissioner for a TWO-month extension of time, extending to November 4, 2003, the period for response to the Office Action dated June 4, 2003.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-1353.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attorneys for Applicants

Joseph R. Keating
Registration No. 37,368

Christopher A. Bennett
Registration No. 46,710

KEATING & BENNETT LLP
10400 Eaton Place, Suite 312
Fairfax, VA 22030
Telephone: (703) 385-5200
Facsimile: (703) 385-5080